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College and School News

The Rev. G. E. Cheek, former principal of the Warren County Training School of Wise, N. C., has accepted a position as public relations director and alumni secretary at SHAW UNIVERSITY. He assumed his new duties at the college in January.

A native of Warren county, Rev. Cheek was educated at Henderson Institute, Henderson, N. C., Knoxville college, Knoxville, Tenn., and Shaw university. He has served as principal of the Warren county school since leaving Shaw twenty-three years ago and has been Jeanes supervisor of Negro schools in the county since 1929. He is pastor of the Antioch and Ilong Baptist churches of Granville county. For the past two years he has served as chairman of the United War Fund drive among colored citizens in his county, where Negroes have contributed over $5,000 yearly.

Taking the lead in county education, Rev. Cheek organized the bus transportation service for Negro children in 1929 and served as director in a two-year campaign in which $13,500 was raised for the purchase of thirteen buses for Negro county children.

Dr. T. Egenezer Ward, president of Liberia college in Monrovia, spent several days at HAMPTON INSTITUTE in December continuing the study he is making of American colleges and modern methods of college administration in this country.

Established in 1862 by members of the African Colonization Society and now a government-supported institution, Liberia college has been headed since 1937 by Dr. Ward, who was previously an instructor and dean at the institution. He is a graduate of Wilberforce university.

George Rideout, S s/c, of Pittsburgh, Pa., a trainee in the U. S. Naval Training School at Hampton, captured first prize in the talent night competition and war bond rally held at the institute in December in connection with the sixth war loan. Rideout's piano variations on "Jingle Bells" won for him a cash award and a year-round pass to the movies presented twice a week on the Hampton campus.

Second prize winner at the event was Miss Miriam Walton, also a pianist, of Atlanta, Ga. She is a freshman at Hampton.

A total of $525 worth of war bonds and stamps were sold at the rally, which was sponsored by the Fidi Amici social club of the college. The program included a movie, swing music by the naval school orchestra and the Hampton Collegians, and selections by Miss Delesta Griffin, Frank Hester, Leonard Gaskins, Seamen John H. Shadwell and Hurley Randall, and Miss Walton and

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Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society held its seventh annual convention at Hampton, February 8-9. Central theme of the meeting was "The stimulation of functional scholarship in the Negro college." Representatives of twenty-four college chapters were present. Dean George W. Gore, Jr., of Tennessee A. and I. college is national president, and Miss Dorinda Duncan, of Tuskegee Institute, national secretary-treasurer.

A college chapter of the NAACP was established at THE FORT VALLEY STATE COLLEGE last November. The membership drive was under the direction of Dr. William M. Boyd, professor of political science and head of the department of social science. At the organizational meeting the chapter had 185 paid memberships or fifty-four percent of the student body.

At the June 1944 convocation at the University of Michigan, William M. Boyd received his Ph.D. degree in political science. Dr. Boyd's doctoral dissertation was *The Administration of Territories and Island Possessions by the United States,* a study of the several federal instrumentalities and agencies which have supervised and controlled the American possessions. Dr. Boyd did his undergraduate work at Talladega, and he has been on the staff of Fort Valley since 1940. He studied at the University of Michigan in 1942-43 as a Rosenwald Fellow and during the same year was appointed to an assistantship in the department of political science in the university.

Bishop John A. Gregg, at an educational mass meeting held at the Quinn Chapel AME church, Chicago, in December, announced a total collection of $34,800 for the debt redemption of WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY. This amount was collected from the Fourth Episcopal district presided over by Bishop Gregg, a former president of Wilberforce and now a member of the university board of trustees.

At the same mass meeting and prior to the report on the mortgage drive, President Charles H. Wesley delivered an address on "The Victory of Faith," pointing out that Wilberforce was a venture in faith and that it would be a significant historical occasion if we could celebrate the centenary of this venture, and of the "Wilberforce idea" launched in 1844, by paying off the twenty-year old mortgage. There will be a total reduction of $64,800 in the mortgage debt principle this year, reducing the mortgage

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DILLARD UNIVERSITY recently received a gift of $17,200 from the Milbank Memorial Fund for the expansion of its program in nutrition. These increased funds will be used to provide adequate instruction for students in the division of nursing and the division of education. In addition special projects will be developed at the Home Child Development Center which is affiliated with the university and at the Flint Goodridge hospital, which is a unit of the university.

At a recent meeting of the board of trustees of the university two new members were added. One is Miss Helen Kenyon of Poughkeepsie, New York, formerly president of the board of trustees of Vassar college. The other is Loren H. Rockwell, an official of the Title Guarantee Trust Company, New York.

The music faculty of Dillard appeared in a combined recital as a feature of the lyceum series, December 3. The members were Miss Carol Blanton, pianist; J. Richmond Johnson, violinist; and Miss Frances Ellison, pianist.

Parts for the B-29 bombers have been made at the LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.) machine shop. Between late in 1943 and April, 1944, the Eagan Machine Shop operated the university shop sixteen hours daily, using five lathes, a drill press, and a milling machine, in the production of B-29 bomber radio equipment. Because of war-time restrictions, the part in question cannot be described in greater detail. The Lincoln machine shop is supervised by Dr. G. Robert Cotton, head of the department of mechanic arts.

Mrs. Josephine Bennett, ninety-three, one of the last ex-slaves in Missouri died in Jefferson City, December 13, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rosetta Bennett Graves. Mrs. Bennett was the widow of the late William Logan Bennett, who, among the founders of Lincoln, was one of the soldiers of the 65th Colored Infantry.

H. H. Williams, who served as proctor of Foster and Allen halls, men's dormitories, successively until September of last year, has left the university to enter USO service. During the past three months, Mr. Williams

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served as an assistant in the business office of the university.

The school of journalism under the direction of A. S. Pride conducted the second in a series of clinics December 1. Dowdal H. Davis, advertising manager of the Kansas City *Call*, gave the lecture demonstration on the clinic topic "Advertising in Negro Newspapers."

Miss Pauline Tate, Burlington, N. C., heads the list of honor-roll students at KITTRELL COLLEGE, according to a statement issued by the office of the dean. Miss Thelma E. Hughes, Marion, S. C., stands second on the list with Miss Salle Belle, Kernesville, N. C., third. Miss Agnes Green is honor student in the commercial department. Miss Tate is a sophomore and Misses Hughes and Belle are seniors.

Prominent labor leaders and educators from all over the state met December 10 at WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE to discuss a program of workers' education for West Virginia. These included representatives of the United Mine Workers, various affiliates of the AFL and the CIO, and educators from Marshall college and West Virginia State. Thomas E. Posey, head of the department of economics at the college, presided. Mrs. Eva Schwartzman, labor lawyer and research assistant at the Workers School of the University of Wisconsin, was the conference consultant. At the dinner meeting of the conference, John W. Davis, president of the college, and E. E. Hollyfield, regional director UMW, district 50, were the principal speakers. Brief remarks were made by Hudson Campbell of the glass workers, Russell Spears of the bricklayers, and Joseph Eades of the carpenters union. All stressed the importance of a united effort on the part of labor organizations in behalf of a workers' education program.

The English department has published an eight-page, illustrated booklet in the college bulletin series 31, No. 6, setting forth concisely its aims and the offerings of its courses and special activities such as debating, journalism, and drama.

(*Continued on page* 61)

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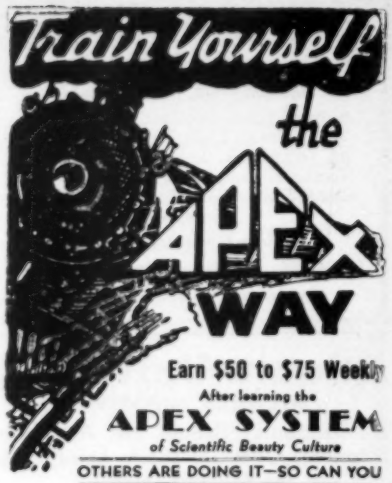

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THE CRISIS

Founded 1910
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

Editor: ROY WILKINS

Editorial Advisory Board: Lewis S. Gannett, Arthur B. Spingarn, Sterling A. Brown, William Allen Neilson, Walter White, Carl Murphy, John Hammond.

Vol. 52, No. 2 Whole Number 410

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WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WITH THIS COPY SEND IT TO A BOY IN CAMP

COVER

These New York men are shown at their AT-11 training plane at the Midland Army Air Field, the Army Air Forces Central Flying Training Command's key bombardier base at Midland, Texas. From left to right they are: A/S Clarence Conway, Tarrytown; A/C James E. Wolfe, 35 W. 116th St.; A/S Robert L. Mason, 601 E. 167th St.; A/C Albert Holland, 314 W. 113th St.; Flight Officer Marcel Clyne, 814 E. 163rd St.; Flight Officer Edward Tabbanor, 566 W. 159th St.; and kneeling is A/C Edward W. Woodward, 935 St. Nicholas Ave.

NEXT MONTH

The Crisis will carry its usual features in addition to articles by Stetson Kennedy and Richard Pattee. Chester B. Himes short story, previously announced, will also appear.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Arthur E. Burke, a teacher of English at Hampton Institute, Va., is now on leave studying for his doctorate in English at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Marius Hansome is director of education of the newly organized City of Arts, Inc. He is the author of "World Workers Educational Movements." J. Robert Smith, managing editor of the Los Angeles *Sentinel*, was formerly a managing editor of one of the Afro-American newspapers. He was at one time labor editor of the New York *Amsterdam News* and did special feature writing for the New York *Post*. Arthur B. Spingarn is president of the NAACP and one of his hobbies is the collection of books by Negro authors. He has, perhaps, the finest collection of these books in America.

Editorials

No Forced Labor

MR. ROOSEVELT has renewed his demand for a National Service Act which would draft all men and women for work deemed to be necessary to the war effort. There would be no choice for any man or woman. Everyone would be registered and state and local draft boards no doubt would be set up to assign each person to duty.

Negroes cannot support this type of legislation. It means not only forced labor for all Americans, but it means with certainty discrimination against Negroes. So-called "work-or-fight" laws in the first World war operated viciously against the race. Local and state administrators interpreted the law as they saw fit with respect to colored people, and will do so again. Under such a law Negroes could be placed in certain types of work and barred from others. For example, they could be jammed into low-paying jobs. They could be concentrated in agriculture. They could be barred from white collar work. They could be moved from place to place without their consent. They could be shifted from Chicago to Tennessee, or from Pittsburgh to Georgia. They could be used to weaken and render ineffectual the unions which have made new gains since 1933.

Organized labor insists that our manpower problems can be solved without resort to this drastic step. Strangely enough, the National Association of Manufacturers is in agreement. We are inclined to that belief, but we are certain on the point that discrimination of the most flagrant sort will result if a national service act is passed. The legislation must be defeated and every Negro voter must make himself heard in Washington. If he does not to so, the race may be returned to something very much akin to slavery.

The Knowlton Letter

EARL C. KNOWLTON is director of the water works in Anniston, Alabama. His son was a member of the crew on a big bomber which was destroyed and all crewmen killed when it collided in mid-air with a P-47 Thunderbolt fighter plane piloted by a Negro flier, who also was killed. The accident happened on a training flight over South Carolina in November.

Father Knowlton sat down and wrote a letter to the War Department and gave a copy for publication to the Anniston *Star*. The Associated Press carried Knowlton's letter far and wide over the land. Burden of his plaint was that the Administration in Washington is giving the Negro a chance to do what the Negro is not yet prepared to do, namely, fly a fast fighting airplane. The Negro mind, Mr. Knowlton wrote, is not able to function and handle so complicated, so swift and so deadly a mechanism as a combat airplane, is not able to make split-second decisions, on which may hang life or death, at 400 miles per hour.

That Mr. Knowlton should be grief-stricken over the death of his son is understandable. That he should have wanted his son to die, if he had to die, in combat against the enemy and not in a training accident is also understandable. But for him to maintain that this one accident proves Negroes incapable of handling combat airplanes is a little pathetic.

Negroes are flying and fighting in America's fastest plane, the P-51 Mustang, rated at better than 400 miles per hour. In these ships they have shot Nazi planes out of the skies. They have bombed bridges, railroad yards, strafed motor convoys and blown up enemy supply trains. They have escorted hundreds of American bombers, protecting thousands of white crew members from attacks by German planes. Against all opposition, against skepticism and indifference *even from top men in the Army Air Forces*, our lads have proved themselves in the air.

Accidents, terrible and tragic, are with us always. Only recently it was announced that an American air ace with 28 German planes to his credit was shot down and killed by *American* anti-aircraft guns. A few weeks ago an American bomber over Germany was lost and all crew members killed when an *American* bomber flying in the same formation, came too close and sheared off a tail with one of its propellers. Two white pilots were killed over Mitchel field, N. Y., about a year ago—collision in mid-air. Only the Army Air Forces knows how many accidents have taken place. The total would be raised considerably if the Navy added its tabulation —and there are no Negro fliers in the Navy.

Father Knowlton ought to think again. All Negroes cannot make combat pilots, nor can all white boys. But to say sweepingly that one accident proves that *no* Negroes should fly airplanes is carrying grief and prejudice far beyond the limits of logic. Nothing can bring young Knowlton back to life. Does his father wish, as the price for his death, that the United States of America shall agree that Negroes are still some sort of semi-civilized animals, unworthy of the opportunities, privileges, and responsibilities of men?

New Navy Policy?

FOR months the rumor factory has been dropping a hint here and there that the Navy department was about to take revolutionary steps in the handling of Negroes in the service. It was said the Navy intended to burn all bridges, wipe out all segregation and give young American Negroes a chance to serve anywhere, and advance to any position, with no restrictions as to race or color. It was said that the plan actually was down on paper and had received approval in very high places *in the Navy itself*, not among civilians or politicians.

This would be news. This would be the most thrilling and inspiring action for democracy that could possibly be conceived. Not only would it thrill and revive the faith of American Negroes, but it would signal to the world that America has begun to cast off hypocrisy, that this nation could be trusted to safeguard human freedom for all at the peace table.

More Than Ever—FEPC

THE FEPC hearing in the Capital Transit case in Washington demonstrates that a permanent Committee on Fair Employment Practice is needed more than ever. The Capital Transit company, despite acute shortage of manpower, despite its idle buses and trolleys, refuses to employ Negroes.

At the hearing it submitted as its main defense a "scientific" study which revealed that 80% of its employes were born in the rural sections of the South and had declared they would not work with Negro conductors and motormen. Here we have a vital transportation system in the nation's capital in war time kept below its full strength by the habits and thinking of little hamlets in the Dixie back-country. Equally fantasic is the spectacle of the right to work of a whole people being denied by those same *mores*.

In the world after the war there will be this type of thinking, but it must not be dominant. There must be an FEPC established by legislation to give a man a chance at a job regardless of his race, color, or national origin. Both the Republicans and the Democrats are pledged to such a bill. It has been introduced in the new Congress and must be passed.

No Negro Nurses Wanted

THERE is a great hullabaloo over the shortage of nurses for the Army and Navy. Officials say 10,000 nurses are needed at once if wounded American soldiers are to receive proper care in hospitals abroad and at home. They say they will have to draft nurses.

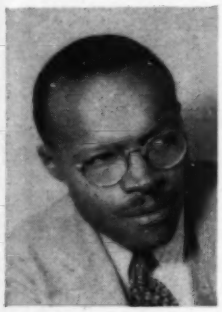
It is estimated that there are about 9,000 Negro nurses, many of whom are available for service duty. But the Navy does not take Negro nurses. The Army has taken in about 300 for duty with Negro troops only.

Meanwhile, American soldiers suffer for lack of proper care, white nurses are greatly overworked, mentally and physically, and competent Negro nurses and doctors are playing tennis in the Arizona sunshine, the nurses with about two patients each and the doctors fretting and going stale with nothing to do.

Collective Bargaining
—California Style

If unions are going to maintain a closed shop and bargain with employers, they cannot bar Negroes as full members, says the California Supreme Court, in a New Year's decision which may mean the death of auxiliary (Jim Crow) unions

JOSEPH JAMES is a long, lean young man who would rather sing for a living than work in a shipyard, but a war is on, and it takes time to get into the big money singing. So he hied himself to the yards of the Marinship corporation across San Francisco bay in Sausalito and got on the midnight shift as a welder. He still had time to study and he sang a radio program once a week in his really fine baritone voice.



Joseph James

But James, a radio and concert singer and welder-in-wartime, may be the man to knock cock-eyed an elaborate jim crow unionism that has barred skilled Negro workers from jobs, prevented them from becoming apprentices, kept their wage scales down through classification as 'helpers' and robbed thousands of Negro families of substantial income and all that goes with it—good health, good homes, good schooling for children, and recreation. He may be the key to opening up a whole new class in the Negro population, the skilled labor group, thus bridging the gap between our millions of unskilled laborers and domestics and our few thousands of professionals.

Now, a baritone, one would think, would be the last person to pick a quarrel with the Boilermakers—the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, to give them their full title. James is soft-spoken, well-educated, even gentle. He believes in unions, in collective bargaining, and in all the other rights of labor.

But the boilermakers didn't do right by the singer, and by other workers who happened not to be white. These men were told they must join the union because of the closed shop agreement with the shipyards: only union men could hold jobs. James joined, but he found that instead of belonging to Local 6 of the Boilermakers, he was a member of Subordinate Lodge A-41, an auxiliary body created solely for Negroes. He refused to continue in the auxiliary lodge with the result that he and the others who felt as he did were ordered discharged from their employment in accordance with the closed shop agreement.

Lodges Are AFL Invention

Let's go back a little on these auxiliary unions, or lodges, as the brothers call them. They are strictly an invention of American Federation of Labor unions for the sole purpose of keeping Negro craftsmen in a separate and inferior status. Many (not all) AFL unions bar Negroes from full membership by one device or another. The separate jim crow lodge has been a favorite scheme in the South and elsewhere. The colored worker and his colored auxiliary union exist only at the will or whim of the parent "white" lodge. The auxiliary may be suspended at any time by the white lodge, and for any reason. In the case of the Boilermakers, no reason has to be given. The president of the white local may have a fight with his wife one night and the next morning fifty or a hundred, or two hundred Negro workers may find themselves suspended and unable to work for a living.

This instant suspension is bad enough, but it is only one of a long list of methods by which auxiliary, i.e., Negro, members are deprived of their rights. The white local supervises, manages and controls all of the affairs and business of the auxiliary, and the latter has no voice, authority or autonomy in the management of its affairs or in dealing with employers. The auxiliary is not permitted a voice or vote in the supervising white lodge, it performs no service for its members and grants no benefits. It merely collects dues. The business agent of the superior lodge acts for the jim crow unit which has no business agent of its own. The jim crow lodge has no grievance committee, but must trust the white lodge to look after its grievances; it may not send workers to jobs, and its members cannot be reclassified or upgraded without the approval of the white lodge.

There are other discriminations, but these will give a fair idea of the vise in which colored workers are held, of their utter helplessness as "union" members. The final fact is that the Negro auxiliary members have no voice or vote in the international convention which is the final law-making body of the union. Thus, there is no way for them to get relief—within the union.

James Went to Court

James saw through this hocus-pocus at once. Others before him had seen it, too, but they had decided to take what jobs and security they could get and do something about it later on. With every path blocked

James retained Herbert Resner (left) and George R. Anderson (right) in his case against Local 6 of the Boilermakers union and the Marinship Corporation.

inside the union, James went outside—to the courts. He is president of the San Francisco branch of the NAACP, and the NAACP went into action. George R. Anderson and Herbert Resner were retained as counsel and Thurgood Marshall of the national legal staff in New York flew to the coast and joined them.

When the employers were about to fire the workers who were dissatisfied with the jim crow union, the attorneys secured a preliminary injunction restraining the employers and the union from discharging James and about 1,000 others in whose behalf he was acting. The union and Marinship corporation appealed to the California Supreme Court and on January 2, before the union had recovered from the holiday hangover, that court gave it another headache with a resounding, unanimous opinion in which occurs the straightforward statement:

"Negroes must be admitted to membership under the same terms and conditions applicable to non-Negroes unless the union and the employer refrain from enforcing the closed shop against them." (Italics ours.)

Chief Justice Phil S. Gibson wrote the opinion, which, if not overturned, may sound the death knell of auxiliary unions for Negroes, and open up new economic opportunities for the race. Said he:

"In our opinion, an arbitrarily closed or partially closed union is incompatible with a closed shop. Where a union has, as in this case, attained a monopoly of the supply of labor by means of closed shop agreements . . . it has certain corresponding obligations. It may no longer claim the same freedom from legal restraint enjoyed by golf clubs or fraternal associations. Its asserted right to choose its own members does not merely relate to social relations; *it affects the fundamental right to work for a living.*" (Italics ours.)

The court found that the illustrations drawn from the complaint and the union rules "clearly established substantial discrimination against Negro workers who accept membership in the auxiliary local. Since they are denied union membership on terms of equality with other workers, the case is the same as if they were wholly denied the privilege of membership."

The union, stunned by the decision of a court which enjoys nation-wide prestige in matters of labor law, has announced it will appeal and ask a trial of the case on its merits, that is, with the taking of testimony according to the laws of evidence. The preliminary injunction which the high court affirmed was issued on the basis of a complaint and counter-affidavits. But the union is talking out loud to cheer itself. It knows that the auxiliary union is on its way out. Either someone will have to invent another trick, or Negroes will have to be accepted as full members.

Only two weeks before the California court spoke, the United States Supreme Court had "belted" another union, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, by holding in *Steele* v. *Louisville and Nashville, R. R. Co.* that the Railway Labor Act clothes the bargaining representative selected by employes with a power which, like that of the Legislature, is subject to limitations, and that, therefore, such representative could not be permitted to discriminate against a minority group of employes because of race.

Bester William Steele, fireman, who was plaintiff in the case against the Louisville & Nashville railroad and the firemen's union. Charles H. Houston of Washington, D. C., was counsel for Steele and his fellow firemen.

Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special Counsel, was associated with Resner and Anderson in the Boilermakers case. Previously Mr. Marshall had taken up the status of the Negro in the Boilermakers union in the shipyards in Providence, R. I. In March, 1944, Justice Alexander L. Churchill granted Negro shipyard workers in Providence a temporary injunction restraining Local 308 of the Boilermakers from discriminating against them. Final decision in the superior court of R. I. is still pending

Case of Steele and the Firemen

The cases are not parallel, but they involve discrimination by a union against some of its members because of race and color. Steele, a locomotive fireman, brought suit because the Brotherhood had entered into an agreement with the railroad whereby Negro firemen would not be promoted and eventually would be eliminated from their jobs. Steele, like James, didn't like the set-up, and he and his fellow firemen employed Charles H. Houston, an eminent District of Columbia attorney and member of the national legal committee of the NAACP, to represent them in court. The brilliant presentation of Mr. Houston before the highest court in the land won a decision which, joined with the California opinion, an opinion of the National Labor Relations Board, and another opinion of the U. S. Supreme Court in the *Wallace Corporation Case*, may alter the entire economic picture for Negro workers everywhere.

It is clear that the next move is up to the craft unions, which means the AFL. In his usual careful language, Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard university law school and chairman of the national legal committee of the NAACP, put it this way:

"It is clearly the purport and effect of these decisions that the exclusion of Negroes from union membership or their segregation into separate or 'auxiliary' unions is legally incompatible with the maintenance of a closed shop and with the enjoyment of statutory rights of representation. Thus the maintenance of status and privilege which labor considers essential to its effective functioning depends as a matter of law upon the full and unqualified acceptance of Negro workers in all labor unions.

"Whether this result is reached quickly and with attendant strengthening of labor's position in the community, or slowly with attendant divisive struggle and controversy must be determined by organized labor itself. We who believe that labor must and will play a constructive part in the evolution of a better and more democratic order in America hope and urge that labor shall deliberately choose the first alternative."

Out in San Francisco, stretching his long legs out from a comfortable chair and filling one of his eleven pipes, Joseph James puts it this way:

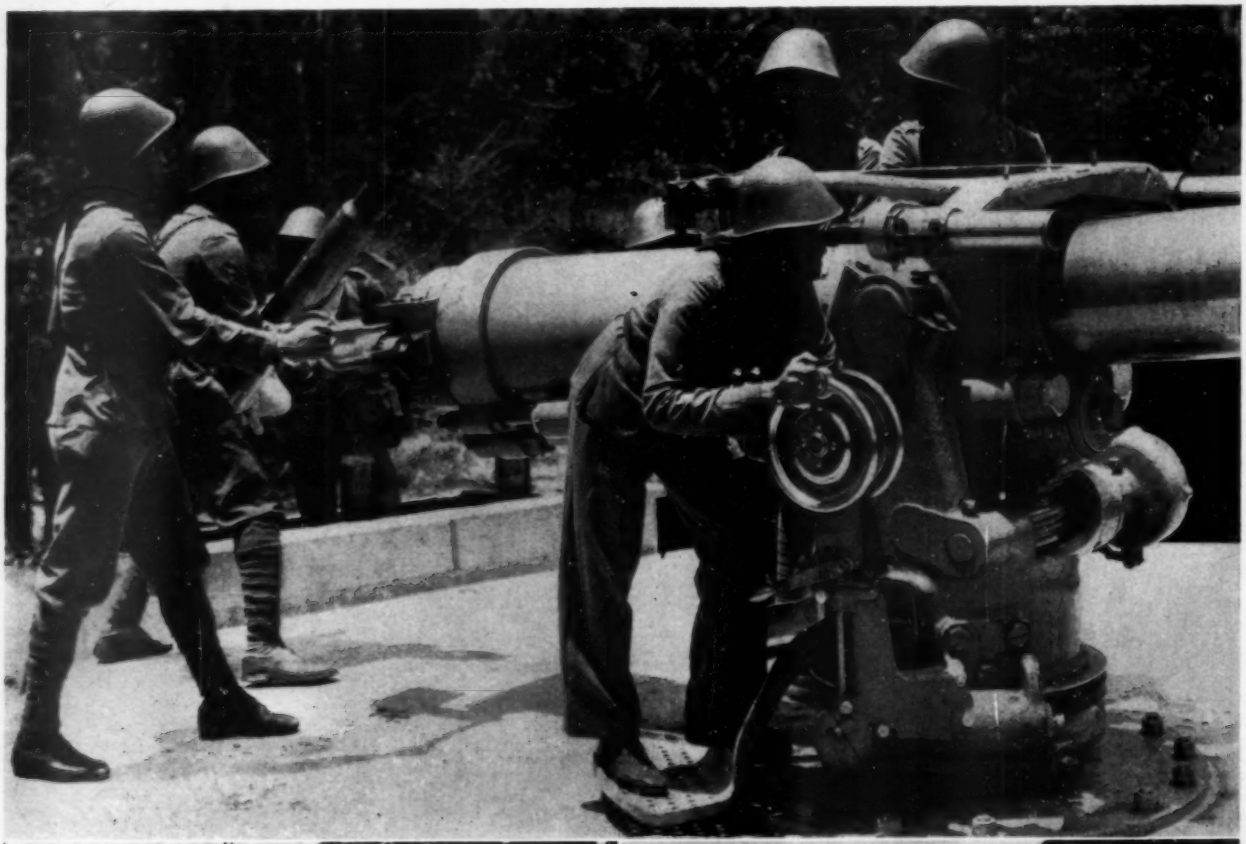
"Naturally we feel pretty good about the Boilermakers case. They say they will appeal, but they know we have them over a barrel. They ought to kick in so we can go forward together."

You can take the judge's words, or those of the baritone. They both say the same thing.

—R. W.

British Official Photos

TROOPS FROM THE WEST INDIES—*From the West Indian colonies of Britain and the Netherlands come the soldiers shown on this page. At top are troops on the parade ground. Inset shows an RAF volunteer, a member of an RAF contingent of ground staff volunteers from the West Indies in England, just back from the stores. At lower left are three members of a mixed unit of the Royal Netherlands Army. No segregation here! The man at the left is from Java in the Netherlands East Indies; the one in the center is from Holland; while the one at the right is from Surinam. Right, embarkation of British troops for the 5th Army landing south of Rome, January, 1944. The man at the left is Sgt. F. Ormson of Lanceshire, England, shown talking to Sgt. Major M. Sukati of Mbabene, Swaziland, Africa.*



Hubert & Hanson Hiss Photos

SURINAM SOLDIERS MAN THE GUNS—*Top, Dutch soldiers manning coastal defense guns near the capital Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana. At left are Surinam born members of the Netherlands Armed Forces in Dutch Guiana with up-to-date Johnson rifles. Note the various racial types shown such as Bush Negroes, Negroes, Red Indians, and Carib Indians. Right, a native anti-aircraft gunner aims his up-to-date machine gun (mounted on a truck) against planes near Fort Amsterdam. The importance of the Surinam bauxite deposits for the allied war effort caused the Netherlands government to equip its troops there with the most modern weapons.*

WACS AND A POLYGLOT UNIT—*In the United States Negro and white WACs form separate "racial" units, but in the colonial army of the Netherlands they are integrated. Above are Surinam and European born WACs on parade in Paramaribo, capital of Surinam. Below are members of the first contingent of fully armed forces which arrived in Australia from Dutch Guiana (Surinam). The contingent includes Dutchmen, Creoles, and Carib and Indians, together with Javanese and British Indians who colonized in Surinam in the last century.*

British Official Photos

BRITISH AND NETHERLANDS UNITS—*Top, the first British unit to train on United States soil since before the Revolutionary war, an infantry line unit composed of volunteers recruited in the Caribbean and Bermuda. At the King's birthday parade, this picture shows Gen. Macready, accompanied by Lt. Col. Wilkin making a general inspection of the Caribbean Regiment before the march past the reviewing stand. Lower left, at an advanced dressing station in West Africa an operation is in progress in the camouflaged operating tent. The two orderlies are bending over a steriliser and the corporal on the right has lifted the tray, containing the instruments, out of the steriliser. Right, native officers being installed into the Netherlands Army at Paramaribo, Surinam.*

Vegetable Merchant

By J. Robert Smith

LIKE paragraphs from Horatio Alger is the story of Edwin Louis Petty, the only Negro bonded commission merchant in the United States and the owner-operator of The Petty Produce Company, 9th and San Pedro Streets, Los Angeles, California.

Twelve years ago, Mr. Petty, then 20-years old, left Memphis, Tennessee, and headed for California. He arrived in Los Angeles with little money, a total stranger. His first job paid $3.00 per week.

Today, The Petty Produce Company is doing an annual gross of better than $750,000. But—success didn't come overnight; it seldom does.

Here is the story of the only Negro bonded commission merchant in the United States

. . . It was 1932, the loud, reverberating cry of "Westward, Ho!", popular six bits of a century before, had died down to chamber of commerce publicity. Prosperity was just around that never-never corner. Things weren't looking up at all! Ambitious, young Petty hearing little opportunity knocking in his home town, decided to seek greener fields. California was his goal; gold was his aim.

No sooner had he reached Los Angeles than the search was on for a job. One prospective employer said, "Sorry, no jobs today!" Then, another repeated and another. Many more said the same. Finally, a Japanese wholesale produce dealer in the City Market offered a job at $3.00 per week. Mr. Petty accepted. It was the bottom rung of the ladder; yet, it was a lucky decision on the part of both employee and employer.

Petty worked long, hard, and earnestly. He studied, learning the "tricks of the trade," the "ins-and-outs." His employer was impressed. In 1935, he was promoted to a salesman's position.

As a salesman, the young man had to

Pictured above are the men and women responsible for making the Petty Produce Company one of the largest and best equipped businesses of its kind in Los Angeles. Those pictured are, left to right: Ann Coleman, cashier; Rosetta Hicks, accountant; Mrs. Petty; Mr. Petty; Ernest Shelby, assistant manager; Charles King, driver; Henry Holmes, loader; Bernard Colacion, driver; Abe Thompson, receiving clerk; Edmund Olivas, loader; Edward Thompson, driver; Eugene Moore, field manager.

move the merchandise at profitable prices. This he did. He made many friends, was recognized as a shrewd salesman. At this time, Mr. Petty was the only Negro employee of the firm. However, because of his great record, the employer didn't hesitate to make him general manager of the company. Petty hired other Negroes. Business prospered as never before.

Then . . . Pearl Harbor! The Japanese employer was the first to be evacuated from the Los Angeles area. As a result of this break, Mr. Petty became a general broker, acting as the middleman between the farmer and the wholesale and retail buyers. Past dealings with farmers paid dividends. They knew of his ability to move the goods; they were anxious to sell where they were sure of getting their shares of the returns. A partnership pact was drawn with an American-born Japanese. He, too, was evacuated, leaving Petty as the sole proprietor of a robust produce business.

In 1942 he became a licensed wholesale broker. Two years later, he made application for the rating of Commission Merchant. The bond was $50,000. He was granted the rating. Soon thereafter, he moved from his outside stall location to an inside house, complete with a 355-crate capacity refrigerator, heavy-duty scales, and offices.

The Petty Produce Company is one of the largest in Los Angeles and one of the best equipped. There are fourteen full-time employees. Seven trucks make several trips each to the country daily. Some of the largest produce companies in the area are listed as Petty customers. Only one steady customer is a Negro. Of the E. F. Smith 20-market chain, Mr. Petty says, "For ten years, I have never missed a day of selling vegetables to the Smith Markets." Among other well-known chains are the Ralph's Markets, Market Basket, and Clifton's nationally-famous restaurants. Carload lots of produce are shipped to Phoenix, Tucson, Seattle, Salt Lake City, Portland, Kansas City, and Florida.

Mr. Petty attributes his success to hard work, the ability to sell, and the motto, "Always have the best and selling will be easy!" "No man," he said, "wonders what color hands planted the seeds or harvested the crops; what he wants is the product."

To Negro youth his advice is ". . . . forget about your color, do the job better than the next fellow and the world will beat a path to your door."

He envisions a bright future for the person who will enter the business of tedious farming. Postwar prospects are good for the simple reason that people must always eat.

In addition to his wholesale business, Mr. Petty owns two ranches and was responsible for a number of former farm hands taking over farms evacuated by Japanese. These farmers are prosperous and ardent supporters of their benefactor.

Mr. Petty is seen standing beside an outside office in juxtaposition to crates of vegetables.

Aside from these interests, this progressive young man—he is only 32—sings in the choir of The First AME church, is an avid golfer, member of the Crusader club and secretary of the Personal Reliance club, which was organized by a group of young Negro businessmen.

Anyone of us who looks at his hands, and sees them black and gives up in despair, could well get a lift from the success story of Edwin Louis Petty.

ONLY IN AMERICA

ONLY, IN AMERICA—
Can a child
Sit and Dream:
Golden Dreams,
Fantastic
Dreams,
Dreams,
that are aggrandized;
And then awake one morning,
To find them,
Realized!

ONLY, IN AMERICA—
Can a person
start from Scratch;
Scummy Scratch,
Scrawny Scratch,
Barrenly imbued—
And shed Scratch like a motley'd shell;
Rebirthed . . . Rebreathed . . . Renewed!

ONLY, IN AMERICA—
Can a mother
tell her Son
Someday,
You'll be the President!
Leader of the Mass!
And before Age tints with silver tones,
This thing
has come to pass.

ONLY, IN AMERICA—
Can a Man
boldly say;
He doesn't like the government
Or the men who run the state:
Here the laws are FOR THE PEOPLE:
This does not alternate.

ONLY, IN AMERICA—
Is a whole Nation Free;
Free to vote,
To enterprize,
With impartiality;
And Opportunity lends to ALL
A Free and Equal Hand . . .
Did I say ALL?
Well, that it ALL except the Negro Man.

RHOZA WALKER

New FEPC Directive

The FEPC has directed the McQuay-Norris corporation to eliminate discrimination against Negro women in hiring and against Negro men in upgrading opportunities in its St. Louis plant,

Books by Negro Authors in 1944

By Arthur B. Spingarn

THIS resume (the ninth annual list published in *The Crisis*), following the practice adopted by its compiler in the previous ones, notices all books and pamphlets by colored authors written in English, and those by colored Americans written in foreign languages, that were published during 1944 and which have come to his attention. It includes a few works published in 1943 which reached him too late for inclusion in last year's list.

For obvious reasons, (aggravated by war conditions) the list is incmplete; as heretofore, it omits mention of works by foreign authors written in languages other than English, a number of which are important. No comments are made on books which have been reviewed in *The Crisis* (other than to indicate where such reviews may be found), on books which the compiler has not been able to procure a copy or on the pamphlets separately listed. Authors may assure inclusion of their works in future lists if they will see that the compiler (in care of *The Crisis*) is notified of their publication.

(NOTE: All books listed may be ordered from *The Crisis Bookshop* at the prices indicated.)

This annual summary, with paragraph reviews for the guidance of CRISIS readers, covers books which have come to the attention of the compiler

M. Smith

Miss Florence Murray, editor and compiler of THE NEGRO HANDBOOK.

I. BOOKS

ADAMS, FRANKIE V. Soulcraft: Sketches on Negro-white relations designed to encourage friendship. Atlanta, Ga., Morris Brown College Press. 65 pp.

A slender volume of sketches of actual incidents involving Negro-write relationships in various parts of the country.

BOYKIN, ULYSSES. A handbook of the Detroit Negro. Detroit, The Minority Study Associates. 149 pp. $1.00.

COOK, MERCER and DANTÈS BELLEGARDE, Editors and compilers. The Haitian-American Anthology: Haitian readings from American authors. Port-au-Prince, l'Imprimerie de l'Etat. 161 pp.

An anthology of English prose and verse by authors, with three exceptions, of North American origin designed for use in the advanced English classes of Haitian schools. Mercer Cook contributes footnotes, passages for translation, questions in English, an English-French vocabulary, and an English introduction. Dantès Bellegarde contributes an introduction in French. Selections cover varied aspects of the Haitian scene.

CRITE, ALLAN ROHAN. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? A Negro Spiritual in Illustrations. Cambridge, Mass. Harvard University Press. Unpaged. $3.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 26.

DEAN, CORINNE. Cocoanut suite. Boston, Meador Publishing Company. 102 pp. $1.00.

Fourteen sketches and stories of the West Indies, chiefly Puerto Rico, told with charm and humor. One of the stories appeared in *The Crisis* for January 1940 at page 16.

DISMOND, BINGA. We who would die and other poems, including Haitian vignettes. Illustrated by E. Simms Campbell. New York, Wendell Malliet and Company. Unpaged. $2.00.

Poems by a well-known physician and athlete, containing some stirring poems of protest and other verses.

DOWNS, KARL E. Meet the Negro. Pasadena, Cal., The Login Press. 179 pp. $1.50.

Thumbnail sketches of sixty prominent contemporary Negroes, with bibliographies and outlines for further study by the president of Samuel Houston College, Texas.

EPPERSON, ALOISE BARBOUR. The hills of yesterday and other poems. Norfolk, Va. Printed by James A. Brown. 74 pp. $2.00.

Sensitive verses, many of them capturing its author's evident love of beauty.

FAUSET, ARTHUR HUFF. Black Gods in the Metropolis; Negro Religious Cults In the Urban North. Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press. 126 pp. $2.00.

A study of five religious cults by an authoritative folklorist, based on primary sources, published under the auspices of the Philadelphia Anthropological Society. Interesting and valuable for an understanding of one phase of urban American Negro Life.

FRAZIER, E. FRANKLN and WILLIAMS, ERIC, EDITORS. The economic future of the Caribbean. Washington, Howard University Press. 94 pp. $1.00.

Addresses and proceedings of a conference of prominent white and colored scholars and public officials from the United States and the West Indies.

GRAHAM, SHIRLEY and LIPSCOMP. Dr. George Washington Carver, Scientist. New York, Julius Messner Inc. 248 pp. $2.50.

Although written primarily for young readers, this volume presents a truer picture of Dr. Carver's life and accomplishments than its more pretentious predecessors. Illustrated by Elton C. Fax.

GRAY, WADE S. Her last performance. Omaha, Rapid Printing & Publishing Co. 140 pp. $2.00.

A short novel about love and marriage.

HANDY, WILLIAM C., Editor. Unsung Americans sung. New York, Handy Bros. Music Co., Inc. 236 pp. $3.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 26.

HUGHES, LANGSTON. Seven Poets in search of an answer. A poetic symposium. Edited by Thomas Yoseloff. New York, Bernard Ackerman Inc. 118 pp. $2.00.

Langston Hughes (one of America's leading poets and one of the seven authors of this book) has contributed to this volume ten poems of protest, simple, loving and passionate.

JARVIS, J. ANTONIO. The Virgin Islands and their People. Philadelphia, Dorrance & Company. 178 pp. $1.50.

An account of the peoples, geography and culture of the Virgin Islands by a native. A supplement to his earlier *Brief History of the Virgin Islands.*

JOHNSON, CHARLES S. and others. The Negro war worker in San Francisco. San Francisco, Y. W. C. A. 98 pp. $.50.

A local self-survey covering housing, recreation, delinquency, industry and employment and other allied problems which might well serve as a model for other communities to follow.

KIRTON, ST. CLAIR. Poetic creations. Boston, The Author. 36 pp. $1.00.

A slight volume of minor verse.

LOCKE, ALAIN L. Le rôle du Nègre dans la Culture des Ameriques. Port-au-Prince, l'Imprimerie de l'Etat. 141 pp.

LOGAN, RAYFORD, Editor. What the Negro wants. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press. 352 pp, $3.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for December at page 395.

MERRIWEATHER, EVANGELINE HARRIS. Stories for little tots. Terre Haute, Indiana.

MICHEAUX, OSCAR. The Case of Mrs. Wingate. New York, Book Supply Company. 519 pp. $3.00.

The fourth novel by the author of *The Wind From Nowhere* which, though not a war story, has as its heroine a Negro spy.

MURRAY, FLORENCE: The Negro handbook 1944. New York, Current Reference Publications. 283 pp. $3.50.

The second publication of this useful manual of current facts, statistics and general information on the American Negro covering the year 1942 and 1943. The only work of its kind now in the field since the discontinuance of the Negro Year Book.

ORIZU, A. A. NWAFOR. Without bitterness. Western Nations in post-war Africa. New York, Creative Age Press. 395 pp. $3.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 27.

ROGERS, J. A. Sex and Race. Vol. III: Why white and black mix in spite of opposition. New York, J. A. Rogers. 359 pp. $3 75.

The third volume of this monumental work on sex relations between whites and black by a well-known author, traveller and lecturer. It contains much data not to be found elsewhere and is copiously illustrated from rare originals.

ROSEMOND, HENRI C. Haiti; our neighbor. Brooklyn, The Haitian Publishing Company. 95 pp. $2.00.

An attack, in the form of a melodrama in two acts and twelve scenes, of conditions in Haiti by a native Haitian. It contains interesting material about the history and culture of the country in undigested form.

SHACKELFORD, JANE DABNEY. My happy days. Washington, The Associated Publishers Inc. $2.15.

An attractive volume of verse for children essaying to portray the average life of a fortunate Negro child. Numerous photographic illustrations.

"THE SCRIBES." Sing, laugh, weep. A book of poems by the Scribes. St. Louis, St. Louis Publishing Co. 126 pp. $1.75.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 27.

SPENCER, GERALD A. Cosmetology in the Negro. A guide to its problems. New York. The Arlain Print Co. 127 pp. $2.50.

An illustrated volume on cosmetic diseases of the skin addressed primarily to colored beauty culturists.

THOBY-Marcelin, PHILLIPE and MARCELIN, PIERRE. New York, Farrar & Rhinehart, Inc. 225 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for June at page 202.

TOLSON, MELVIN B. Rendevous with America. New York, Dodd, Mead & Company. 121 pp. $2.00.

Reviewed in this issue at page 61.

TRENT-JOHNS, ALTONA. Play songs of the deep south. Illustrated by James A. Porter, Washington, The Associated Publishers, Inc. 33 pp. $2.15.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 26.

WATKINS, SYLVESTRE C., Editor. Anthology of American Negro literature. New York, The Modern Library. 481 pp. $.95.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 27.

WILLIAMS, ERIC. Capitalism and Slavery. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press. 285 pp. $3.00.

A study of the part slavery played in financing the industrial revolution in England and the role of capitalism in destroying the slave system. A valuable contribution to economic history by a brilliant scholar.

WILLIAMS, CHANCELLOR. The Raven, Philadelphia, Dorrance and Company. 562 pp. $3.50.

A novel based on the life of Edgar Allan Poe, well written, though condensation would have improved it. Particularly interesting for its account of Poe's reactions to slavery.

WOODS, ODELLA PHELPS: Recaptured echoes. New York, The Exposition Press. 64 pp. $2.00.

A volume of verse. Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January at page 25.

WRIGHT, RICHARD and others. Crosssection. A collection of new American writing. Edited by Edwin Seaver. New York, L. B. Fischer. 559 pp. $3.50.

This collection contains considerable Negro material; a fine novelette by Richard Wright, poems by Langston Hughes, and short stories by Carl Ruthven Offord and Ralph Ellison. All are outstanding in a volume of mixed quality.

II. PAMPHLETS.

BELLEGARDE, DANTÈS and others. Economic problems of the Caribbean area. New York.

BONTEMPS, ARNA. Special collections of Negroana. Chicago.

BROWN, EARL. Why race riots New York.

BROWN, ROSS D. Afro-american almanac. Chicago.

CITY OF CHICAGO. City planning in race relations. Chicago.

COBB, W. MONTAGUE. Education; priority number one. Atlanta.

COBB, W. MONTAGUE. The artistic canons in the teaching of anatomy.

COBB, W. MONTAGUE. Apical pericardial adhesion resembling the reptilian gubernaculum cardis. Philadelphia.

COLEMAN, ROBERT W. Colored Business and professional directory of Baltimore. Baltimore.

DAVIS, JOHN A. How management can intergrate Negroes in war industries. New York.

DUBOIS, W. E. B. Jacob and Essau. Talledega.

DuBOIS, W. E. B., Editor. Report of the First Conference of Negro Land-Grant Colleges for co-ordinating a program of co-operative social studies. Atlanta.

EARLY, CHARLES SUMNER. How to realize world peace and democracy. Cleveland.

ETHERIDGE, FRANK OSCAR. "What became of race prejudice?" New York.

GREENE, HARRY W., Editor. An adventure in co-operative research. Institute, W. Va.

JACKSON, LUTHER P. Virginia Negro soldiers and sailors in the Revolutionary War. Norfolk.

JOHNSON, PRESTON C. and SAUNDERS, JULIA O. The education of Negroes in Virginia; an annotated bibliography. Petersburg.

MURPHY, JOHN H. Sergeant Murphy, story of a Civil War veteran. Baltimore.

NEGROES IN CHICAGO. Chicago.

PERKINS, A. E. A resume of Negro Congressmens' office holdings. New Orleans.

"PHLORONY." Transactions of the Prince Hall Lodge of Research of New York. New York.

TOBIAS, CHANNING H. World implications of race. New York.

WEAVER, ROBERT C. The Negro comes of age in industry. Washington.

WESLEY, CHARLES H. The treatment of the Negro in the teaching of United States history.

WILKERSON, DOXEY A. The Negro people and the communists. New York.

WILKINS, HELEN J., with Juliet O'Bell. Interracial practices in Community Y. W. C. A.'s. New York.

THE ARTIC SEA

The Arctic Sea, the Arctic Sea,
It is an eerie memory.
The rocking ship, the rocking ship,
The salty spray upon your lip.
The foggy air, the foggy air,
It makes a fellow stand and stare.
The glossy seal, the glossy seal,
He eats a cold and fishy meal.
The puffin bird, the puffin bird,
He sings a song you've heard.
The midnight sun, the midnight sun,
It makes you wonder what you've done.
The sky is gray, the sky is gray,
So gray in some peculiar way.
The Arctic Sea, the Arctic Sea,
It is an eerie memory.

—C. Elton Pugh

Waldemar Rannus: Sculptor of Negroes

By Marius Hansome

WALDEMAR RANNUS, sculptor and stone cutter, died recently after a brief illness at the age of 65.

Mr. Rannus was born in Estonia, Russia. His father was a forester with an inclination toward music. He served an apprenticeship in the stone cutter's trade in Petrograd and studied Russian art in his spare time. Then he migrated to America where he joined the Stone Cutter's union to make a living while he continued his studies at the National Academy of Design. Later he studied in Paris, Rome, Moscow, and in the art galleries of Scandinavia.

Rannus has exhibited some of his work in the Art Centre, in the Brooklyn Museum, at the Frederick and Loeser Galleries, at the Sesquicentennial in Philadelphia, etc. Just before he entered the hospital from which he was fated never to leave alive, he was preparing for his first one-man exhibition. The writer called at his studio and counted thirty pieces in the ensemble of his exhibits. Anyone interested may see his collection at his Memorial Art Studio, opposite the entrance to the Woodlawn Cemetery. Hildah Rannus, his widow, will be glad to welcome anyone who is interested.

Among the comments on his art we quote a few: Dr. Speek in the *Washington Star* said: "Rannus' art has not a little which set the work of Mestrovic apart." Walter Pach, art critic, wrote in Art News: "Rannus made a significant advance during the year in fineness and in strength that surprised even those who had followed his quiet development for years." And, a critic in the *New York Times* characterized Rannus' work a an Independent Artists' show as "powerfu studies."

Interest in Negro

This power is evident especially in th several studies of Negroes whom he ha sculped out of hard wood. His profoun interest in the Negro people grew out of hi admiration of the character of Abraham Lincoln, and of the inclusive human attitud displayed by the great leader of the Rus sian revolution, Vladimir Lenin. Lenin calle a congress of all the nationalities withi Russia in order to kindle a feeling fo socialist brotherhood and to convey an as surance that the soviet government believe in the essentially integral unity of all man kind regardless of color. At that congress Negro addressed the assembly and made a meaningful plea for universal kinship.

A biographical sketch of an artist who expressed the brotherhood of man in stone and wood

This plea gripped the sensitive soul of the artist who throughout his life always fought on the side of the pioneers of social freedom.

Soviet Russia recognized the artist and through the embodiment of his art, the Negro people. "Africa," as illustrated here was acquired for the permanent collection of the Western Art Museum of Moscow.

"The Ethiopian," a portrait in dark teakwood, is in the permanent collection of the Brooklyn Art Museum.

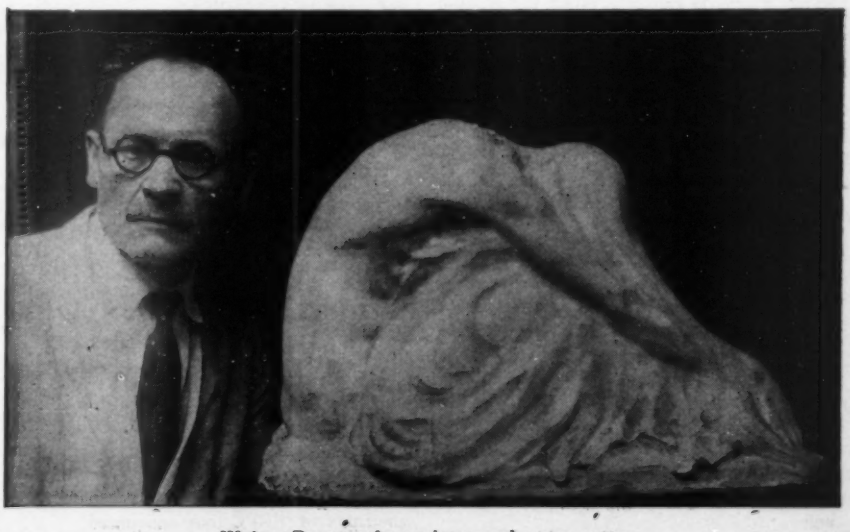
He regarded the Africans as children of the forest. The artist himself was reared amidst the forests of Baltic Russia and he always harbored a fondness akin to reverence for wood as a vital medium through which to convey his ideas and feelings.

After a day's hard toil in cold, reluctantly yielding adamant, he found a warm inviting welcome of relief in calling out significant forms from the organic, like-like quality of a log.

All Men Are Brothers

Rannus was a frontier thinker in that he saw as did Shelley, that the essence of artistic social maturity, therefore of morality, consists in the awareness of the common interest of all human beings, in serious, enthusiastic, and organized endeavor to realize the beloved community and that meaningful art helps to deliver the socially emergent. Art that is alive, Rannus held, must be sought in the great stream of forward moving humanity. He believed that the value of art is realized in the degree to which it tends to expand, clarify, refine, and organize our preceptions of meanings in the realm of human relations, of truth and beauty, in the ennoblement of our habits and "to enthuse" and sustain us in the struggle for the conditions that will result in the fulfilment of all personality—each according to his natural endowment.

Rannus shared with Walt Whitman the idea that the highest social art is the institution of the dear love of comrades. He wanted installments of heaven in the here and now. Therefore, he warned the Negroes of the futility of taking over the old decadent "Churchianity" with its puerile mythology, and to eschew the promise of a heaven in the hereafter, while acquiescing in an economic and social system that obviously prepares folks much better for fratricide and hell. He urged that the triumph over death must be sought in co-operative comradeship among free spirits in this world. Holding to so lofty a social ideal, the writer feels how pitiful that



Walter Rannus the sculptor and stone cutter.

the artist did not live long enough to experience a communal thrill from his first complete exhibition. But, the writer assured him while the artist listened to the silent orders of onmipotent death, that he would try to interpret the artist's ideas to the public. It will interest the readers that the editor of *The Crisis* was first to respond with an invitation to submit an appreciative article about the artist.

Leftist Thinker

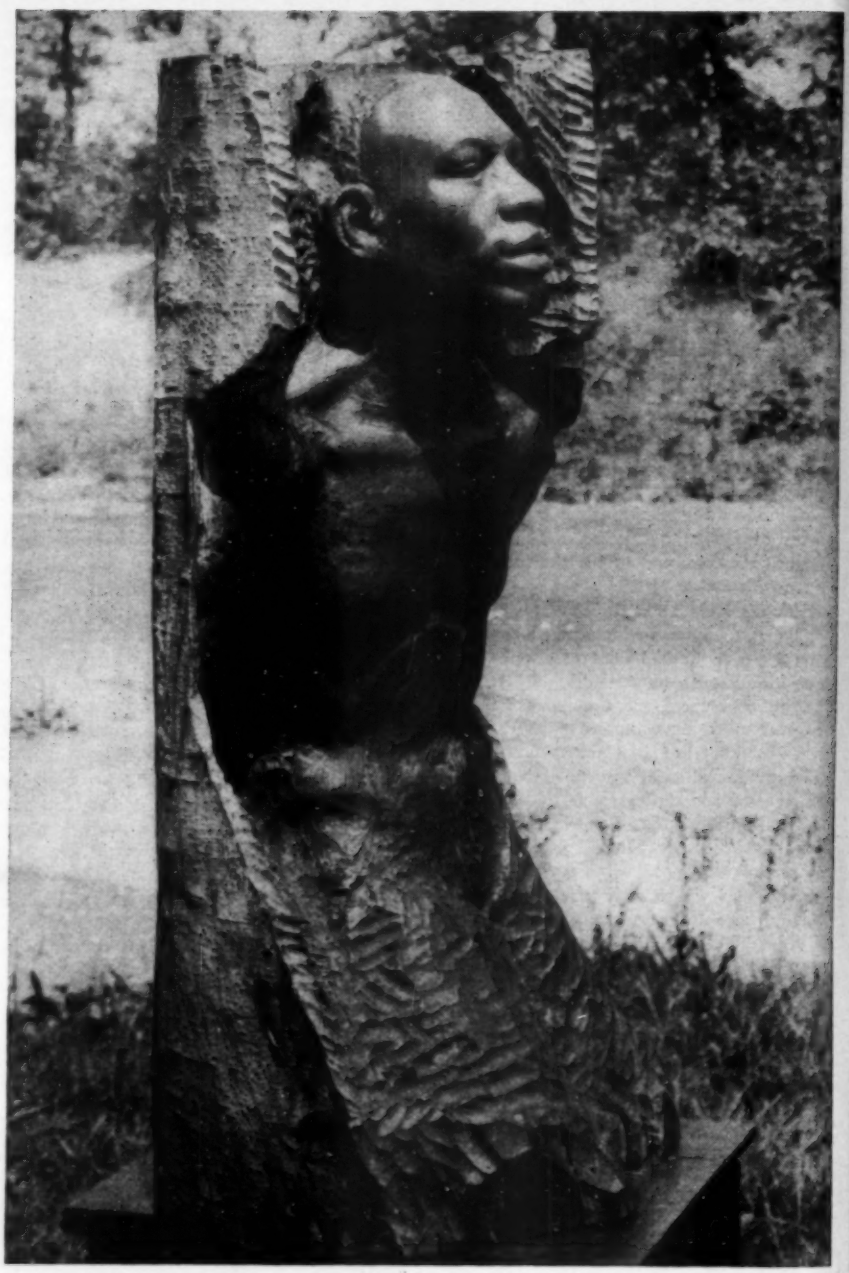
Rannus was often troubled by the pleas of partisans for a given political affiliation. Intellectually and temperamentally he went along with the leftist social movements, yet he preferred to plead the privilege of the artist who would hold the human element of all peoples as the core of his point of view.

With Tolstoi he held that art consists chiefly in communication of feelings which can be universally shared.

The distinguishing feature of great art, according to Tolstoi, is that art must be comprehensible and accessible to a greater number of people than is now the case. Tolstoi would condemn much of the unintelligibility which masquerades as "modern" art today. Without subscribing wholly to Tolstoi, Rannus did find the emphasis upon comprehensibility congenial.

Among the powerful embodiments of an idea is a huge hand carved out of a block of red Swedish granite, weighing some six hundred pounds. The sculptor desires to symbolize the idea that the workers by hand and brain, organized and guided by the ideal of a common humanity, will one day generate the collective power to crush the madness of the military-murder machines.

Mr. Rannus, stone cutter and sculptor (labor and leisure) exalts the glory and power of the human hand which, if guided by social intelligence and sympathy, will bring "Peace on Earth." When the sculptor had completed the Hand of Man, he confided to the writer that the hand should mark his final place of rest. His wish will be carried out, and the visitor to Mt. Hope Cemetery may soon view this symbol of work and fellowship.



One embodiment of Rannus' conception of the Negro is this sculpture, "Enlightment," done in ebony wood. It was purchased by the Moskva Western Art Museum in 1937 for its permanent collection from the temporary exhibit held at the Brooklyn Museum.

Soldier Heroes

The accolade of hero was accorded three Section C soldiers stationed at Pratt Army Air Field, Pratt, Kansas, who risked personal injury in order to save valuable property from a blazing apartment house when they were visiting in Larned, Kansas, recently. The three men, Pvts. William Young, Sherwood Wilson, and Perston Banks, tied handkerchiefs over their faces and made repeated trips through the smoke-filled building.

Cartridge Company Must Accept Available Workers

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has directed the United States Cartridge Company, St. Louis, Mo., to accept available and needed workers in its munitions plants without discrimination because of race or color, Malcolm Ross, chairman of FEPC, has announced.

Seabees Celebrate Birthday

More than 12,300 Negroes joined with other Navy Seabees in celebration of their third birthday December 23, 1944. The Seabees have participated in every major amphibious invasion launched by American forces in both hemispheres, and have grown from an original force of 3,300 men to one of more than 234,000.

Along the N. A. A. C. P. Battlefront

AN NAACP MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

This "go-getting" membership committee of the Camden, N. J., branch was credited during the 1944 membership campaign with 3,425 members and $2,253.

ANNUAL MEETING: Outstanding note in the year 1944 was the phenomenal growth of the NAACP, acting secretary Roy Wilkins told the annual meeting, Tuesday, January 2.

The NAACP has just completed its thirty-fifth year of activity, the greatest in its history, one which saw more than 400,000 members enrolled in some 800 local units, including approximately 15,000 in the armed forces," Mr. Wilkins said. "We regard this enrollment," he added, "as a mandate to continue the vigorous campaign for full citizenship for Negro Americans now and after the war, and all our energies and resources will be used toward that end."

But, he continued, "Despite this progress and record of service on the battlefronts, the picture for 1945 is not a rosy one. Many impartial surveys have established that there are numerous centers of racial tension in all parts of the nation. There still exist humiliating and morale-shattering regulations and practices in the armed services. In employment Negro Americans have made gains because of manpower demands, but the future will be more uncertain for them than for other Americans unless a permanent policy of nondiscrimination is embodied in legislation by Congress. This legislation is a 'must' item if our minority groups are to start 'even' with their fellows in tthe struggle for postwar jobs."

Much still needs to be done in the field of housing, education, health, public accommodations, and travel.

Greetings from Walter White, now in the Pacific as New York *Post* war correspondent, were read by Roy Wilkins.

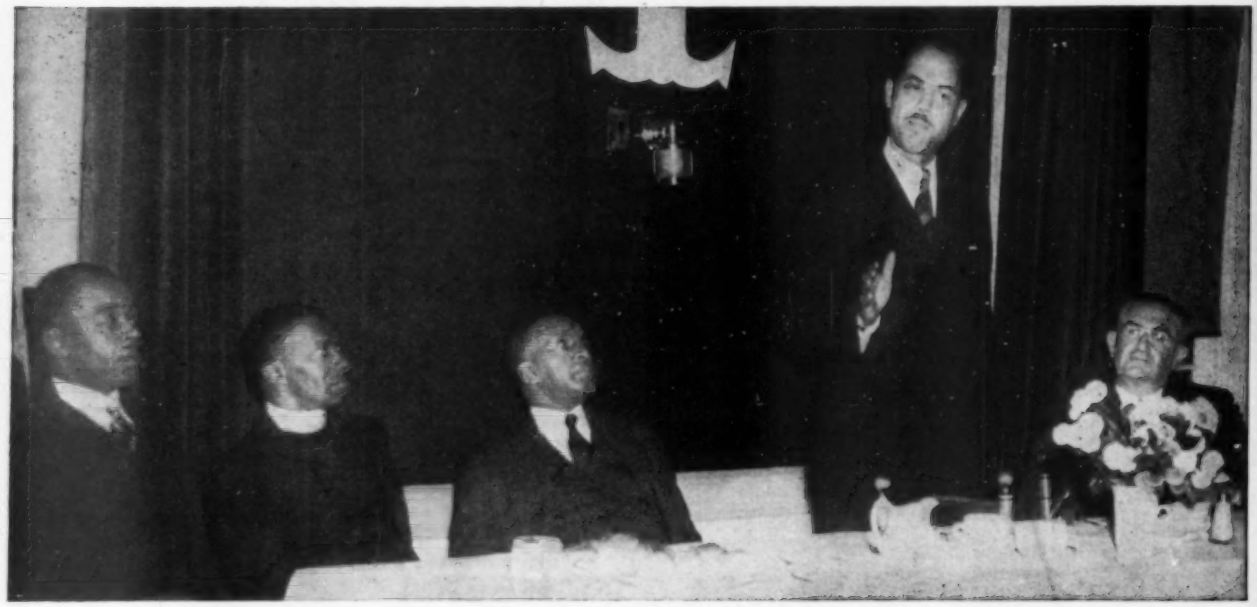
Reports were given by all departments of the Association, including youth, legal, branch, special research, research, publicity, the Washington bureau, and *The Crisis*. The financial report for the year ending December 30 showed receipts of over $371,000. Announcement was also made of the establishment of a regional office on the Pacific coast in January, 1945. A new feature of the branch work is the establishment of leadership training conferences, the first of which was held in the national office November 11, 1944. Three others were held at Cleveland, Ohio, January 20-21; Indianapolis, Indiana, January 27-28; and Kansas City, Missouri, February 3-4.

Since details of the legal defense work of the Association will be contained in the annual report of the legal department, we merely list a few of the significant cases. In the case of *W. L. Patterson v. Board of Registration*, Birmingham, Alabama, the plaintiff is suing the registrars for damages because he was denied the right to register as a voter. Decision in the case of *Gerald R. Hill v. Boilermakers Union*, in the Superior Court of Rhode Island, is still pending. Negro boilermakers were granted a temporary injunction against the boilermakers restraining the union from setting up a jim crow auxiliary for Negroes. In a similar case in California, *Joseph James v. Boilermakers Union*, the California Supreme Court outlawed jim-crow auxiliary unions. In the case of the *Railway Mail Association* the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court held that the association was a labor union and therefore could not discriminate on account of race or color.

Some of the teachers' salary cases handled are those of *Wiley B. McMillen v. Iberville School Board* and *Eula Mae Lee v. Jefferson Parish School Board* in Louisiana; in Arkansas that of *Susie Morris v. Little Rock School Board;* in Tennessee that of *Jackson Colored Teachers Association v. Commission of Education;* in Georgia that of *Samuel L. Davis v. Atlanta Board of Education;* in Alabama that of *William Bolden v. Birmingham School Board;* in South Carolina that of *Viola Duvall v. Board of Trustees.*

The Association also rendered service in many cases involving men in the armed forces: Fisher and Lowry, the Seabees Case, the Port Chicago "Mutiny," as well as those of Pvts. Conway Price, Willie Orange, and others.

JUDGE DELANY OF NEW YORK ADDRESSES TROY BRANCH



At a meeting of the Troy, N. Y., branch, Judge Hubert T. Delany asked for an end to race prejudice. Seated at the speakers table are, left to right, Frank E. Jenkins, president of the Troy branch; Rev. D. Talmadge Murray, pastor of the Liberty Presbyterian Church; George B. Kelly; Judge Delany; and Mayor John J. Ahern.

Among the eighteen members elected to the national board of directors were seven new members: Judge Jane M. Bolin, New York; Elmer A. Carter, New York; Russell W. Davenport, New York; Charles H. Houston, Washington, D. C.; Dr. James J. McClendon, Detroit, Mich.; Theodore M. Berry, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Dr. John A. Singleton, Jamaica, New York.

New vice-presidents are Harry E. Davis, Cleveland, Ohio; T. G. Nutter, Charleston, W. Va.; Isadore Martin, Philadelphia, Pa.; Louis C. Blount, Detroit, Mich.; Charles Poletti, New York; Robert E. Treman, Ithaca, N. Y.; and Miss L. Pearl Mitchell, Cleveland, Ohio.

DR. DUBOIS ON DEFENDER HONOR ROLL: Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, director of special research for the NAACP, is one of the leading Americans elected to the *Chicago Defender* honor roll for 1944.

SOLDIERS SEND FUNDS: Members of the armed forces continue to give liberal financial support to the work of the Association. From the 856th Engineer Aviation Battalion the national office received fifty-five memberships totaling $402.50. From the 823rd Engineer Aviaiton Battalion stationed somewhere along the Ledo Road the office received memberships and contributions in the amount of $2,002.50. The membership campaign was initiated by "Club 21" in the battalion, of which Sgt. Oscar Haynes is president. S/Sgt. Evelio Grillo was chairman of the membership committee and Sgt Frank J. Shepard was vice chairman. A regular campaign was inaugurated beginning November 1 and closing November 12 with a celebration program on which Blanchard R. Baker, Red Cross club director and former activities secretary of the Harlem YMCA, was the principal speaker. Musical numbers included an organ prelude by Sgt. Edward L. Clark, solos by Sgt. Randolph Scott and Cpl. Randall Kemp.

Seamen on the USS Santa Fe, through Dr. Powell of the *Amsterdam News*, have forwarded the Association $310.

Contributions totalling $1,839.50 and ranging individually from $52.50 to $358 have been received recently from army personnel engaged in active combat in both the Pacific and European war theatres.

WALTER WHITE CONFERS WITH ADMIRAL NIMITZ: While in Hawaii, Walter White conferred with Admiral Chester W. Nimitz on two occasions. He also conferred with Lt. Gen. Richardson, Brig. Gen. Fielder, Admiral Furlong, Brig. Gen. Blount and others as well as many enlisted men. On December 18, according to the Honolulu *Advertiser*, Mr. White was the principal speaker at a public forum attended by more than two hundred Negro service men. At the lively question period the soldiers asked about FEPC and postwar employment, the Port Chicago explosion, and racial tensions in the United States.

From cursory observation, Mr. White says there has been much less racial friction in the Pacific than in other war areas he has visited. Many military and civilian whites from the mainland have, however, created problems in a land which had very few; but officials are working earnestly on the situation.

SEEKS CLEMENCY FOR SOLDIER IN ARKANSAS SHOOTINGS In December the Washington bureau filed a petition for clemency with the War Department on behalf of John A Foreman, formerly a private attached to the 364th Engineer Regiment, who was sentenced to twelve years imprisonment on the charge of attempted murder of James E. Jordan, constable of Cotton Plant, Arkansas.

A number of Negro soldiers attached to the 364th Engineer Regiment stationed at Camp Joseph T Robinson, Arkansas, were given leave for the night of May 20, 1943. They went to the nearby town of Cotton Plant to spend the evening and as they were standing outside of a restaurant in the colored section, the town constable peremptorily ordered them to "get going" An unidentified soldier is alleged to have said that they didn't have to leave. This angered the police officer, who, without attempting to place any of the men under arrest, drew his pistol and threatened to shoot. Several soldiers, never satisfactorily identified, grabbed the officer to prevent him from carrying out his threat. While the officer struggled to prevent being disarmed, he was accidentally shot by a discharge from his own gun. At the trial no one disputed the fact that Jordan was under the influence of liquor at the time. Evidence was also brought out that on the preceding night a Negro soldier had been shot while away from camp.

NEW VETERANS SECRETARY: Captain Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr., who was placed in inactive status last October because of physical dis-

BRANCH WORKERS

From left to right are Rev. Marcus Taylor, president of the Arkansas State Conference, and Charles Jones, leader of the membership campaign in Bay City, Texas.

ability, has been named new secretary of veterans affairs in the NAACP. Captain Dedmon is thirty-six. He is a native of Oklahoma and was graduated from Howard university in 1932, receiving his law degree there in 1935 He was admitted to the Oklahoma bar in February, 1937, and practiced in Tulsa from 1937 to September 15, 1940, when he was called to active duty with the rank of first lieutenant. He was promoted to the rank of Captain August 21, 1942. He served with the 366th Infantry at Fort Devens, Mass., had charge of the training program at Prairie View college for one year, and was trial judge advocate at Camp Claiborne, La., from June until September, 1944.

Captain Dedmon is familiar with the problems of Negro soldiers, and his legal training plus his experience as trial judge advocate are expected to be of utmost value in his new work.

NAACP Accepts Invitation to Move Into Wendell Willkie Building: As soon as the proposed Wendell Willkie Memorial House is secured sometime during 1945 the national headquarters of the NAACP will be moved into it. The board of directors of the Association at its regular December meeting formally received an invitation from Freedom House officials, who are sponsoring the Willkie Memorial House, to have the NAACP occupy space in the building. The directors voted to accept the invitation.

The new house, for which a purchasing and maintenance fund of $250,000 is now being collected, will be located in midtown Manhattan and organizations fostering causes in which the late Mr. Willkie was interested are being invited to take space in the building. So far the Citizens' Housing Council, Freedom House, and the NAACP have been selected to move into the building.

Oldest Staff Member Honored: At the annual meeting, January 2, special recognition from the board of directors was given Miss Richetta G. Randolph for thirty-two years of efficient and loyal service to the Association as office manager, and, later, as secretary to Walter White. Presentation of a beautiful purse was made by Miss Doris Washington on behalf of the clerical staff.

Recent staff changes and additions include appointment of Miss Lucille Black, formerly executive assistant to the director of branches, as membership secretary and Mrs. Catherine Freeland Penn as new office manager. Miss Randolph will remain with the Association as clerk of the board.

NAACP Outlines Stand on Army Nurse Draft Bill: In January the Association went on record for inclusion of a clause to end discrimination and segregation in proposed legislation for the draft of nurses for military service as well as in opposition to the humiliation of Negro army nurses in the presence of German prisoners of war.

In a wire to Chairman Andrew J. May of the Military Affairs Committee, acting secretary Roy Wilkins said:

"National Association for Advancement of Colored People strongly urges that if Nurses are drafted, the legislation contain a clause forbidding discrimination and segregation on account of race and color in the induction and service of nurses. We urge this because under voluntary enlistment program Negro nurses who were eager to serve their country have been discouraged from enlisting by a quota system and a policy of restricting them to nursing of Negro soldiers only

BRANCH WORKERS

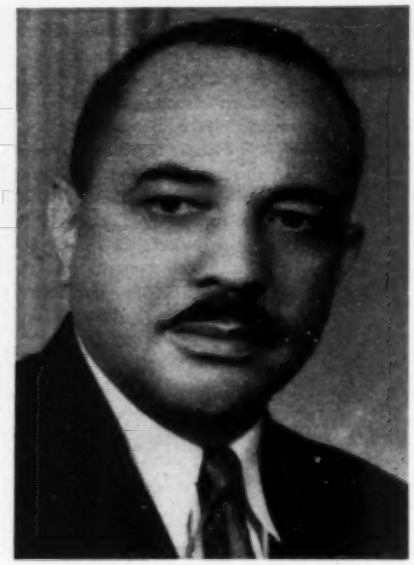
Left to right: Ossie Jones of Coffeyville, Kansas, was responsible for 15 members in his branch membership drive. Grant Cain, of the same branch, brought in 35 members as a volunteer worker.

AIDED CALIFORNIA CAMPAIGN: PHI BETA CHAPTER OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY

Left to right: Jas. J. McGee, parliamentarian; Russell P. Young; Atty. Curtis C. Taylor; Clarence S. Smith, district supervisor, whose district raised highest amount raised by any district, $3400; Wm. M. Nickerson, Jr., president, Golden State Mutual and Chairman Finance Comm.; Harry W. Mercer, editor; Rev. J. Lyle Caston; Dr. C. W. Hill, president of Phi Beta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity which purchased a $500 life membership in the NAACP; Oscar D. Stokes, pharmacist; Dr. R. P. Williams. Those not shown in picture: Clarence Muse, national vice-president; Roy Williams; Atty. Afue McDowell; Dee Hodge; Albert Maddox; Sidney P. Dones; S. P. Johnson; Edgar S. Browne; Cecil Davis; Clarence R. Johnson, Federal Housing Agency; Dennis M. Johnson; Wm. Perry, secretary-treasurer; Granville Norman; Dr. Frank G. Zetar; chairman of board; Claude Tedford; J. Robert Smith; Rev. E. J. Hicks; George A. Beavers, Jr.; F. Terrell; 1st Lt. E. M. Porter; 1st Sgt. W. Thompson; Pvt. Fred M. Baker; Aaron Douglas; B. B. Bratton; Horace P. Clark, vice-president; Ben Carter.

SOME MORE OF OUR MANY NAACP BRANCH WORKERS

Dr. A. Porter Davis is president of the Kansas State Conference of the NAACP.



Oscar C. Brown, president of the Chicago, Ill., branch. Mr. Brown's first contact with the NAACP was as a student at Howard in 1919. Under his direction his branch has grown from a membership of less than 1,000 to a total of approximately 12,000.

Mrs. Minnie W. Allen, a worker in the Cumberland, Va., branch, was recently crowned "Miss Cumberland NAACP."

This failure to utilize trained and registered Negro nurses has contributed to the critical shortage which military authorities are now seeking to remedy by means of a draft. It should be pointed out that even if draft is ordered and present system of limited and discriminatory use of Negro nurses is continued, it is not likely that more Negro nurses will be inducted. Our information from various camps is that tendencies exist to concentrate Negro nurses in prisoner of war camps. Several cases have been reported here that they have been doubly humiliated before German war prisoners by being forced to eat in separate dining rooms.

"Negro nurses like all other Negro Americans are anxious to serve their country but so far they have been given limited opportunity and have been insulted in the bargain. As a southerner you will instantly recognize how ridiculous is the assumption that trained Negro nurses shall not be entrusted with ministering to wounded American soldiers who happen to be white."

Protest against the humiliating treatment of Negro army nurses was made in a letter to Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy. The incident evoking the letter happened at a prisoner of war camp hospital in Florence, Arizona, and is as follows:

A Major Simpson ordered Negro army nurses to eat in a separate dining room. This order was felt to be especially humiliating because these nurses, even though in the uniform of the United States Army, were set apart under the very noses of German war prisoners who serve as cooks and waiters in the hospital officers' mess. So keenly did the nurses feel their humiliation that on the first day the order was supposed to take effect, they seated themselves in the old dining room. This defiance of his order caused Major Simpson to call in the chief nurse. He then publicly told her that the separate arrangement had been instituted because it was the way he wanted it and that the nurses must obey because they were in the Army and had sworn to obey the orders of their superior officers.

Naturally the German prisoners looked upon this scene with great glee, and the Negro nurses went to their jim crow dining room boiling mad.

We understand from announcements of Major General Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General, U. S. Army, that the Army is really not anxious to increase the number of Negro nurses. However, if incidents like the foregoing illustrate Army policy, we are sure that Negro nurses in their turn will not be anxious to serve in the Army.

NAACP Authorized Representative of Seamen: All fifty of the seamen convicted in the "mutiny" trial in California have made it clear in writing, says special counsel Thurgood Marshall, that the NAACP is authorized to represent them. Not only is the Association bearing all expense involved in legal action, but it has also been granted permission by the Judge Advocate of the U. S. Navy to represent these men when their case comes up for review.

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938 Lane Street Akron 7, Ohio

Branch News

Connecticut: The New Haven, Conn., branch organized a register and get out the vote committee which was responsible for the registration of at least one hundred people. The committee contacted voters in the Dixwell avenue section of the city to impress upon citizens the necessity for getting out and voting in the election. Non-partisan in structure, the committee is composed of both Republicans and Democrats. In addition to getting out the vote, the committee also registered those in the armed forces and got ballots to them. Organizations which helped the committee were the Rakorth club, the Elks club, students from the Yale Divinity School, and members of the American Youth for Democracy.

Florida: A continuing program of all Florida branches is the campaign to get colored citizens to register and vote. John Gilbert, a charter member of the Brevard county branch, has been instrumental in organizing a branch at Bartow. Other leaders in the branch organization are W. P. Milner, Rev. G. A. Burkett, and Rev. Cliffin. At the first mass meeting of the group last November, Dr. O. H. Sweet, of Bartow and Detroit, Mich., was the speaker.

The Brevard county branch now exceeds its quota of 400 members. At the end of November its membership was 425 with the distribution of the leading towns as follows: Mims, 128; Titusville, 102; and Melbourne, 100.

Recently elected officers of the Pompano branch are J. H. Green, president; Mrs. Ella Ricks, secretary; N. Samuel, vice-president; and William Brookins, treasurer.

Indiana: The Muncie branch publishes a

brochure which includes among its chapters one on the "Negro and Allied Problems." Myrdal's *An American Dilemma* was the subject of discussion at a recent branch meeting.

NEW JERSEY: A suit for $1,500 in penalties has been brought against the owners and operators of the Beacon theatre of East Orange for alleged violation of the New Jersey civil rights law. This action was instituted in December, according to Dr. E. B. Simmons, president of the East Orange branch, by three branch members, Mrs. Madeline Williams, Mrs. Cordelia Martin, and Mrs. Nancy Wanzer, who claim the theatre discriminated against them because of their color. According to the papers filed in the suit, the women say they went to the theatre on or about November 3, 1944, and sought to purchase orchestra seats. The women claim they were told: "It is contrary to the policy of this theatre to sell orchestra seats to colored persons."

Under the state civil rights law, it is illegal to refuse any person admission to any place of public amusement or entertainment because of race, color, or religion. The person so offended can sue in the name of the state and, if a judgment is found, a penalty of from $100 to $500 can be awarded to the state and attorney's fees to the complainant. In addition, a fine of not more than $500 can be levied against the offender.

In Hackensack, the Bergen county branch won a suit against the Esquire restaurant at Banta Place. On May 30 of last year this restaurant refused to serve Mrs. Sophia Jennings. She got in touch with the branch president and explained what had happened, but he informed her that she would have to have witnesses before she could institute suit. Securing her witnesses, she returned to the restaurant and was again refused service by the management. Upon the basis of this evidence the case was then placed in the hands of attorneys Wittman and West. On September 28, 1944, the case came up before Judge Randall of the Englewood district court. The defendant pleaded guilty to the charges and was fined $100 and cost, the minimum fine under the civil rights law. Since then the management of the Esquire has made an about-face in its policy toward Negroes, even leaning over backwards to be courteous to them. This is said to be the first time the state civil rights law has been tested in Bergen county.

NEW YORK: Officers of the Staten Island branch were installed in December at ceremonies held in the St. Philip's Baptist church, Port Richmond. Clarence DeHart, president, in a short talk, paid tribute to all the past presidents of the branch. Organized in 1925, the branch is now at peak of membership and influence with seven hundred seventy-five people of all races and groups affiliated. Other officers installed were Mrs. Drusilla Poole, first vice-president; Nathan F. Dujon, second vice-president; Mrs. Mary N. Dujon, treasurer; Mrs. Thelma Mose, secretary; and

The top picture shows Dr. Charles Drew, Spingarn medalist who lived most of his life in northern Virginia a few miles from Fairfax county, speaking before the Fairfax county branch in the Second Baptist church, Falls Church, Va. From left to right, Rev. Milton Shepard, president; Dr. Charles Drew; Dr. Edwin B. Henderson, chairman executive board; and Rev. W. E. Costner, board member. Below are Mrs. Ruby Nailing (standing), membership clerk, and Miss Lucille Greene (seated), administrative assistant, of the Detroit, Mich., branch. The branch office includes an outer reception room with literature displays, an inter-office telephone system, private interview room, work room for mimeographing, executive secretary's office, stock room, and mailing room.

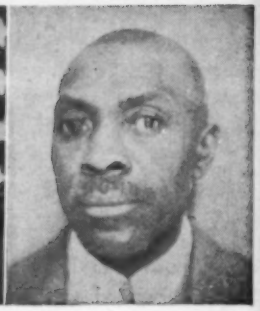
SOME BRANCH PRESIDENTS AND A BRANCH SECRETARY

Edgar B. Hillsman
Carbondale, Ill.

Jasper Maupin
Prescott, Ariz.

Rev. H. L. Warren
Secretary, Joplin, Mo., branch

Spencer Bradley
Alexandria, La.



Thomas Ayler
Murphysboro, Ill.

Rev. David M. Moss, chaplain.

Installation of new officers of the New Rochelle branch took place January 14 in the Colored Women's club. Officers installed were John Tate, president; George Richardson, first vice-president; Winston Robertson, second vice-president; Miss Irene T. Rivers, financial secretary; Mrs. Cornelia Harris, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Lillie Hayes, recording secretary; Mrs. Laura Scantlebury, treasurer; and Mr. W. J. Brown, chaplain.

The Port Chester branch recently adopted a resolution scoring anti-semitism as Hitler tactics in America. The resolution condemned both Jewish and Negro hatred with equal vigor.

PENNSYLVANIA: Milton Washington, director of the physical education department of the Southwest YMCA, has been appointed to serve as the representative of the Philadelphia branch on the advisory committee on health education to consult with and advise assistant-director of public health, Dr. Meyer Solis Cohen. Mr. Washington is well qualified for his post. He is a graduate of Temple university and has been physical director of the YMCA for several years.

Attorney Theodore O. Spaulding has been re-elected president of the Philadelphia branch for his fifth term. Mrs. Carolyn D. Moore was also re-elected branch secretary. Other officers elected were Joseph Faison, first vice-president; George B. Morris, second vice-president; Henry C. Parker, Jr., treasurer; and Miss Edith P. McDougald, assistant secretary.

The following persons were named to the executive committee: James Jones, Walter P. Offutt, Jr., Reba Bowie, Robert Evans, John C. G. Temple, Richard C. Dabney, Jr., Maurice B. Fagan, Mamie Brown, Rev. John Dillingham, G. James Fleming, Edna W. Griffin, William C. Jason, Jr., Rev. W. L. Johnson, Rev. Thomas Logan, Alberta Morris, Harvey Schmidt, Alvin C. White, M. N. Patterson, Gretchen James, Harold L. Pilgrim, and Robert Parker.

A strongly-worded letter to the president of the Pennsylvania railroad protesting discrimination in his road's service was sent by the branch in December. Among other things, the letter stated: "Numerous complaints are reaching our office regarding transportation service, or lack of it, offered to Negro patrons by the Pennsylvania railroad. These complaints are made, not only against the coach service offered, but against the almost total lack of pullman facilities available. Our investigation has revealed that the policy of the company appears to be refusal to sell pullman tickets to Negroes traveling south of Washington; refusal to make reservations for them for return trips; and segregation on through trains running not only south, but west. This is certainly true on the Trailblazer running from Philadelphia to Chicago, for example."

The executive board of the branch at its final meeting for the year, December 29, 1944, went on record as approving the proposed simplified code for venereal disease control as prepared by the Public Charities Association for presentation to the 1945 state legislature.

Some of the aims in the branch program for 1945 are: pushing state and local legislation for a permanent FEPC; securing appointment of additional Negro police officers and promotions for Negro police to higher

MORE NAACP BRANCH PRESIDENTS

C. F. Harris
Lake County, Ill.

G. L. May
Coffeyville, Kan.

Mrs. Lelia B. Michael
Asheville, N. C.

Mrs. Bernetta Booker
Cumberland, Va.

A. L. Coleman
Lorado, W. Va.

Dr. James McClendon
Detroit, Mich.

ranks; securing complete elimination in Philadelphia newspapers of racial identification in crime reports; continuing campaign for full integration of Negroes into organized labor; eliminating the quota and other restrictions used by the Philadelphia Housing Authority to bar Negro occupancy; and completing the job of full integration of workers in Bell Telephone, Yellow Cab, and all other public utilities, regardless of race, color, or religion.

VIRGINIA: Guest speaker at the ninth annual state conference of the association held in Richmond, November 4-5, 1944, was attorney Moss A. Plunkett, white, who spoke on "the basic God-given rights" of men.

At its annual meeting December 8, held at the Leigh Street Methodist church, the Richmond branch elected the following officers: Dr. J. M. Tinsley, president; Dr. W. L. Ransome, vice-president; Miss Antoinette E. Bowler, secretary; and E. C. Burke, treasurer. Chairmen of branch committees are as follows: Atty. Spottswood W. Robinson, III, legal redress; Dr. W. L. Ransome, education; Rev. W. B. Hall, publicity and program; Emanuel Williams, labor; Mrs. Senora B. Lawson, membership; and Daniel W. Washington, suffrage.

WEST VIRGINIA: The Charleston branch is doing the following things: petitioning the Public Service Commission to revoke the license of the Yellow Cab company or any company that discriminates; that fight has been won; investigating segregation on Greyhound bus lines; securing accommodations in Greyhound restaurants; introducing a civil rights bill into the 1945 state legislature; drafting a bill that provides for Negro representation on the State Board of Education; protecting the civil rights of Negroes, not only in the Charleston area, but in the state; and organizing a committee to deal with juvenile delinquency. In the immediate future the branch expects to start a statewide good-behavior campaign.

Youth Council News

In 1944 the number of active youth councils reached a new high of 168. Eleven of these were revivals but seventy-five of them were chartered during the year. Because of the added emphasis placed on the recruiting of members under sixteen, many more junior councils were organized. Baltimore, Md., reports the youngest member, a three-year-old *Crisis* salesman. In size Knoxville, Tenn., places first with 1,184 members; Chattanooga, Tenn., second with 853; and Wilmington, Del., third with 560.

College chapters are working on the campuses of twenty-seven schools with that at Hampton Institute, Virginia, the largest with 336 members. One of the first chapters organized in a predominantly white school is the one at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

Total youth membership in the NAACP is now 14,471. Funds received by the national office from youth councils and college chap-

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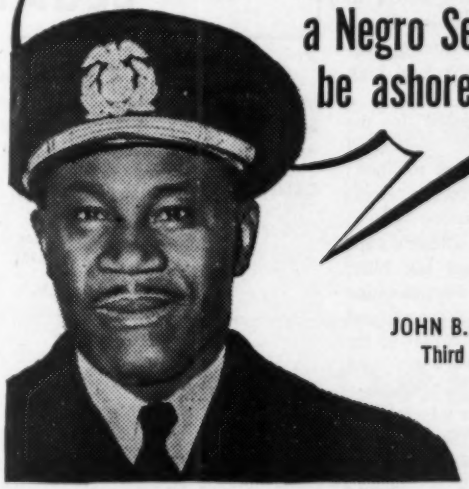
"I'm Shipping out again
This is no time for a Negro Seaman to be ashore . . ."



JOHN B. CLARK,
Third Mate

THE Merchant Marine needs experienced men to run supplies to our fighting men. Mates, Engineers, Radio Officers, Able Bodied Seamen, Cook-Bakers and Messmen can serve their country now as never before.

It's a wonderful chance for Negro Seamen. Negroes have become Skippers of supply ships. Up-grading is faster than ever before in the entire history of the Merchant Marine.

If you have Sea experience—sign on today. You can make *years* of progress in a few short months. Your Merchant Marine has no postwar conversion problem. It's all set to go and grow after the war. Get in now. Serve your country, while you're building your own future.

To sign up with the Merchant Marine, report to your nearest War Shipping Administration office, your maritime union, U. S. Employment Service, or wire collect to Merchant Marine, Washington, D. C.

Contributed by the makers of PM DE LUXE Blended Whiskey

National Distillers Products Corporation, N. Y. 86.8 Proof. 49% Grain Neutral Spirits.

ters now total $4,582.67.

Other national activities of the council were the annual observance of National Negro Youth Week April 23-29, 1944; meeting of the Youth Section of the War-Time conference, Chicago, Ill., July, 1944; and the sixth annual youth conference held in Richmond, Va., November 17-19, 1944.

During the year the youth secretary visited the following communities: Washington, D. C.; Greenwich, Conn.; Chicago, Ill.; Baltimore, Md.; Boston, Mass.; Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond, Va.; Detroit, Flint, Pontiac, Mt. Clemmens, River Rouge-Ecorse, Benton Harbor, Albion, Mich.; Burlington, Jersey City, Long Branch, Newark, N. J.; Canton, Brooklyn, Hillburn, Jamaica, Mamaroneck, Mt. Vernon, Port Chester, N. Y.; and Bryn Mawr, La Mott, North Philadelphia, West Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.

A break down of some of the activities of the youth councils are as follows: In West Philadelphia, Pa., regular monthly interracial forums; in Boston, Mass., job surveys for the purpose of creating job opportunities; in Bryn Mawr, Pa., attack on segregation in the local theatres; in Flint, Mich., resolutions to the city commissioners protesting vice conditions in proximity to schools and other places attended by youth; in Savannah, Ga., campaign to get 18-year-old first voters to register and vote; and in Centralia, Ill., a campaign which resulted in abolition of segregation in the auditorium of the local high school.

Youth groups also participated in the nation-wide membership drive; cooperated with the OPA in its fight against inflation; policed stores for violations of ceiling prices; observed National Negro History Week; worked for the passage of the soldier's vote, permanent FEPC, and anti-poll tax bills; fought for the abolition of discrimination against Negroes in the armed services; and sponsored efforts for the presentation of the film, "The Negro Soldier."

As a result of the appeal of L. F. Palmer, director of experimental teacher education at Hampton Institute, Va., the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes at its meeting in Orangeburg, S. C., adopted the following resolution:

"We commend the program of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to establish legal bases for equality of educational opportunities for Negro youth, and we reaffirm our support of the program. We urge our member institutions to encourage the organization of high school and college chapters in their respective institutions and youth councils in their local communities."

New York City Soldier Decorated In Italy

Private Melvin J. Matterson of New York City recently was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action in Italy.

TWO NAACP BRANCH WORKERS

Left, Rev. W. J. Faulkner, dean of the chapel at Fisk and for four years president of the Nashville, Tenn., branch. Right, Mrs. Sidney Maddox of the St. Louis, Mo., branch, whose division reported 1287 members and $1693 in the 1944 membership drive.

LEGAL DIRECTORY

The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. THE CRISIS maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

CALIFORNIA

Clarence A. Jones
129 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles 13
Telephone: VAndyne 1764

Marshall Denton, Jr.
3429 S. Central Ave.
Los Angeles 11
Telephone: ADams 5544

DELAWARE

Louis L. Redding
1002 French St., Wilmington 30
Telephone: 3-1924

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Isaiah Lisemby
1609 First St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
Telephone: North 7343

ILLINOIS

Ellis & Westbrooks
3000 S. State St., Chicago, Ill.
Telephone: Cal-4968-9

INDIANA

William Henry Huff
East Chicago (Direct mail to
520 East 35th St., Chicago 16)
Telephone: OAkland 6749

MICHIGAN

Floyd H. Skinner
Michigan at Monroe Avenue, Grand Rapids
Telephone: 8-9042

NEW JERSEY

J. Mercer Burrell
23 Howard St., Newark
Telephone: MA 3-4709

NEW YORK

William T. Garvin
217 W. 125th St., New York 27, N. Y.
Telephone: ACademy 2-9260

OHIO

Harry E. Davis
202-6 Engineers Bldg., Cleveland
Telephone: MAin 1320

Chester K. Gillespie
416 Hickox Bldg., Cleveland 14
Telephone: CHerry 1835

OKLAHOMA

Cecil E. Robertson
114½ Court St., Muskogee
Telephone: 836

PENNSYLVANIA

Raymond Pace Alexander
40 S. Nineteenth Street, Philadelphia
Telephone: Rittenhouse 9960

Sadie T. Mossell Alexander
40 S. Nineteenth Street, Philadelphia
Telephone: Rittenhouse 9960

Theodore Spaulding
425 South Broad St., Philadelphia
Telephone: Pennypacker 4834

Fitzhugh Lee Styles
2200 West Columbia Ave., Philadelphia
Telephone: Stevenson 6182

Book Review

LYRICO-DRAMATIC

***Rendezvous with America.* By Melvin B. Tolson New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1944. XII+ 121 pp. $2.00.**

Melvin Tolson's *Rendezvous with America,* just recently off the press, carries one back to Cullen's *Color* and Hughes's *Fine Clothes to the Jew.* No Negro poet save Sterling Brown, in his *Southern Road,* has published in one volume so much that is remarkable for its freshness, its poetic imagination, and, above all, its reflection of American life as it affects Negroes. The reader will not find here the same sort of color consciousness found in Cullen, the same rawness of life in Hughes, or the same satirical humor in Brown. All these elements are here, but in a mood peculiar to Tolson.

Tolson exhibits a vigorous Americanism, a fine catholicity, a geneous humanity seldom met with. This is evident in every one of the seven sections of this small volume of poems. These attributes are best summarized in the following stanza from the title poem of the book:

America?
America is the Black Man's country,
The Red Man's, the Yellow Man's
The Brown Man's, the White Man's.

America?
An international river with a legion of tributaries
A magnificent cosmorama with myriad patterns and colors!
A giant forest with loin-roots in a hundred lands!
Acosmopolitan orchestra with a thousand instruments playing
America!

But they are hardly less evident in "Esperanto," Movement IV of "Dark Symphony," "The Ballad of the Rattlesnake," "A Legend of Versailles," "The Shipwright," Number II of "The Idols of the Tribe," and the last section of "Tapestries of Time."

In this little volume Tolson has orchestrated not only the human strivings of many peoples who built America but also the loves and hates bodied forth in the present world conflagration. He has the knack of epitomizing the significant experiences of man and of making these throb with well-controlled drama. Such is the case in "When Great Dogs Fight," which begins,

He came from a dead-end world of under breed
A mongrel in his look and in his deed
and ends,
A sphinx haunts every age and every zone:
When great dogs fight, the small dog gets a bone.

Such is the case also in "The Ex-Judge at the Bar," "The Unknown Soldier," "The Blindness of Scorn," and a good many more of the shorter poems. In all these Tolson reminds one of Browning, save that he never becomes sardonic as Browning did in his later years.

One of the most intriguing interests of *Rendezvous with America* is the variety of verse forms. "Rendezvous with America" and "Dark Symphony" are especially notable for their variations in rhythm, meter, tone color, and harmony. The one section which may disappoint is "Sonnets." Here Tolson does not achieve sufficient flexibility in the Shakespearean form to produce a truly lyrical quality. In form he is mechanical; in matter graphically succinct and never obscure. This suggests that his genius lies in the dramatic and lyrical veins, rather than in the delicately lyrical. But there is so much of real poetry in this first volume of his, so much of vital content too, that one hesitates to say he will not soar in song with his later poems.

ARTHUR E. BURKE

College News

(*Continued from page* 38)

Three students of the college represented the student body at the sixth all-southern Negro Youth Congress held in Atlanta, Ga., from November to December 30. They were Virginia Williams, Lloyd Hurst, and Calvin Parker. Miss Williams served on the time and place committee, Mr. Parker was chairman of the findings committee, and Mr. Hurst was chairman of the rules committee and was elected member of the executive board.

Miss Judith Austin, traveling secretary of the World Student Service Fund, was assembly speaker at DELAWARE STATE COLLEGE in December. Miss Austin outlined the contributions of the fund in providing world student relief through the establishment of service centers in China, Holland, Belgium, Poland, and other countries.

Delaware State was admitted to membership in the Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association at its thirty-second annual meeting at Hampton Institute. Organized in 1912 the association is one of the leading athletic conferences in the country. Delaware State is the first college admitted since 1941 when West Virginia State became a member.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The terminus of all the West, she stands
Like some mirage of madness in our dreams,
Unfolds a looming wonder to the lands
Beyond the magic of her clustered schemes;
Her frenzied drunkeness of countless sums
And Time—camp-spirited and free—the maze
And endless din, the swelling pulse that comes
When tantrum throngs begin to sense a craze.

She breathes the breath of seven million souls,
Restrains a manswarm with her gentle hands,
Allays her night-mared millionaires, condoles
Her buoyantly-ambitioned youth, and brands
Upon the world her strength and love and zeal,
And ribs the skeleton of hope with steel.

—C. ELTON PUGH

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE NEGRO

209 Pages—Preparatory Volume—$2.75

***Edited by* DR. W. E. B. DuBOIS *and* DR. GUY B. JOHNSON**

In 1932 the Encyclopedia of the Negro, Inc., was organized under the auspices of the Phelps-Stokes Fund. The purpose was to publish a definitive work in four volumes on the Negro race similar in scope and treatment to the Catholic and Jewish encyclopedias. Two well known authorities in the field, one a Negro and the other a white man, were appointed editors.

The encyclopedia is obviously a tremendous undertaking and the publication date is not in sight. However, much valuable material has been assembled which is *now published in a Preparatory Volume.*

The main feature of this work is an *alphabetical list of subjects* dealing with the Negro race and a list of source material for each subject. The introduction to the book is written by Anson Phelps Stokes, and the editors collaborate on the leading article. A section prepared by Dr. L. D. Reddick discusses *Library Resources for Negro Studies in the United States and Abroad* and there is a *Bibliography of Bibliographies* compiled by Professor Rayford Logan. Appendices contain the history of the Encyclopedia from its inception; the articles of incorporation, lists of the Directors, Advisory Board, and Editorial Staff, with photograph.

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INSURE WITH NEGRO COMPANIES

They provide: SECURITY for Loved Ones, JOBS for Trained Negroes and ECONOMIC POWER for the Group

The National Negro Insurance Association reported for 1943:

—Assets of $45,303,718.74
—Income of $66,049,648.08
—Insurance in force: $526,017,578.00
—Policies in force: 3,190,997
—Employment (36 companies reporting) 8,022 Negroes

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